

FREIGHT MOBILITY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

**November 20, 1998
WestCoast SeaTac Hotel - Seattle Room
SeaTac, Washington**

Board members present were Chairman Dan O'Neal, Ms. Patricia Otley, Mr. Don Lemmons, Mr. Cliff Benson, Ms. Carol Moser, Mr. David Kalberer, Ms. Mary Seubert, Ms. Jennifer Joly, Mr. Sid Morrison, Mr. Jim Toomey, Mr. Bob Edwards, Ms. Barbara Cothorn and Acting Executive Director Mr. Dennis Ingham..

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Chairman Dan O'Neal welcomed the Board to the November 20, 1998, meeting.

MINUTES: Board reviewed minutes from the previous meeting on October 16, 1998. Chairman O'Neal asked for the approval of the minutes.

Ms. Cothorn moved, Mr. Lemmons seconded, to approve the minutes from the October 16, 1998, meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Chairman Dan O'Neal and Mr. Dennis Ingham reported on their meeting with the Legislative Leaders held on November 18, 1998, to discuss any changes due to a different dynamic in the Legislature. The Legislative Leaders expressed support for continuing the freight program and the Board. They intend to support an amendment to the statute to make it discretionary for the Board to contract through the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) instead of hiring an Executive Director. If at a later time the Board felt it necessary they could hire an independent Executive Director while continuing to utilize support from WSDOT.

STRATEGIC FREIGHT CORRIDORS: Mr. Greg Selstead, Assistant Planning Manager of the Transportation Planning Office, WSDOT, reported on the Freight Goods and Transportation System (FGTS). FGTS is a policy used to adopt strategic freight corridors for state highways, local roadways, and city streets. The purpose and outcome of this process is to adopt a joint resolution with the Transportation Commission as discussed during the October meeting. The Transportation Commission adopted the resolution on November 17, 1998, at their regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Selstead explained the Commission shall designate a freight goods and transportation system in December, and will update that system biennially.

Local agencies collected the data by counting trucks and estimating tonnage. Then by using the T-1 through T-5 classification the agencies put the data in project ranking order. To determine the classification of the roadways for FGTS, after reviewing the data there were some roadways that didn't meet the T-1 or T-2 classifications. However, the roadways on each side of the one roadway in question do meet the criteria. So to include the entire corridor it was proposed to make exceptions for these roadways.

Mr. Selstead's presentation is only one component of the strategic freight corridors. The Board still would need to adopt corridors for waterways and railroads.

Ms. Moser moved, Ms. Seubert seconded, to adopt the strategic freight corridors for roadways with an amendment to the title to read, "Strategic Freight Roadways."

MOTION CARRIED

LEGISLATIVE REPORTS: The Board discussed how to submit the list of projects and whether they needed to determine how many dollars to request. Ms. Jennifer Joly stated the Board should submit the entire list for funding and then it is up to the Legislature to determine how much of Referendum 49 would go to this program.

Mr. Dennis Ingham explained Ms. Kjris Lund will be discussing the report to the Legislature at their next meeting. He also suggested the Board determine what their role as freight mobility advocates will be.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Director: Ms. Barbara Cothorn reported on the Executive Director process. There were 24 applications and the subcommittee interviewed six. The subcommittee decided on one candidate that it thought was best qualified to do the job. The subcommittee had planned to recommend the candidate to the full Board. The meeting with key Legislators caused the chairman and the subcommittee to put the selection process on hold pending a discussion with the Board. The Board agreed that it would not proceed further at this time and that it would continue to rely upon the Department of Transportation for support for the time being, provided such support remains available. The Board thanked Mr. Dan Rude for assisting with the Executive Director process.

Mr. Toomey moved, Ms. Otley seconded, for Mr. Ingham to continue to be the Acting Executive Director for the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

State Share: Mr. Bob Edwards introduced Mr. Dan Malarkey of ECONorthwest. Mr. Malarkey shared with the Board the state share subcommittee approach. Their recommendation is that the maximum percent funded by the Board be 65% of a total project cost, unless a special exception was granted. Also, a cap of \$50M for any one project in a 6 year time frame. This approach encourages a minimum of 35% of

partnerships for each project. For the projects requesting more than this policy allows, Mr. Ingham will contact them and get a response to forward to the Board in December.

A discussion on solicitation and evaluating future projects began. Projects not funded during the 1999 Legislative session would need to resubmitted when the Board has a new call for projects. These projects would then be reevaluated with all new projects selected. This policy would need to be incorporated in the next call for projects.

Mr. Morrison moved, Mr. Toomey seconded, to accept on a preliminary basis the criteria presented by the subcommittee, and to have staff contact all the participants on the list to get their reactions for the Board's consideration in December.

MOTION CARRIED

FUTURE ITEMS: Chairman Dan O'Neal appointed a subcommittee to work on the Legislative Report and oversee the drafting of Legislative language to make discretionary Board hiring of an Executive Director and language to compensate Board members for expenses incurred incidental to their Board duties and responsibilities. The subcommittee is Mr. Jim Toomey as chair, Ms. Barbara Cothorn, Mr. Cliff Benson, and Ms. Jennifer Joly to work with Mr. Ingham and Ms. Kjris Lund.

Ms. Barbara Cothorn requested to have Ms. Helga Morgenstern back to discuss the budget.

MEETING ADJOURNED 2:20 p.m.

A. DANIEL O'NEAL, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

DENNIS B. INGHAM, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR